| *Year* | *Number of arrests* | *Quantity of drugs Seized (in Kgs.)* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1989 | 5 | Heroin | 15.9 |
| | | Hashish | 252.7 |
| 1990 | 6 | Heroin | 88.375 |

No precise valuation of prohibited drugs, which are often of indeterminate chemical strength and composition, and which are liable for destruction, is feasible.

(c) Two persons have absconded.

**Crisis in Silk Industry**

1517. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conditions of silk industry workers is miserable;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the assistance proposed to be given by the Govt. to the silk Industry workers; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of Silk products in view of its great demand in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). In general, the conditions of the workers in the silk industry are not considered to be miserable.

(c) Some of the schemes being implemented for the benefit of silk Industry workers, include supply of mulberry cuttings, assistance to Bivoltime Seed Cocoon Producers, establishment of Chawkie Rearing Carters, subsidy to farmere for purchase of nylon nets for Uzifly control, Incentive for Bivoltime Cocoon and Raw Silk producers,supply of rearing kit to small and marginal farmers, assistance to reelers for establishing units in new and traditional areas, subsidy for establishing multiend reeling units & providing of margin money loan to cocoon and raw silk marketing agencies in States for marketing and stabliation of cocoon and raw silk prices etc.

(d) The Government has been emphasising product development and upgradation of quality silk textiles, especially for export purposes. Export of silk products has been increasing over the past few years. Exports in 1990-91 were Rs.441 crores compared to Rs. 401 crores in 1989-90. A target of Rs. 550 crores has been fixed for 1991-91.

[*English*]

**Bench of Karnataka High Court in Hubli-Dharwar**

1518. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for setting up a bench of Karnataka High Court in Hubli-Dharwar;

(b) if so, the time by which this bench is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) Repre-

sentations have been received from time to time for establishing a Bench of Karnataka High Court at Hubli-Dharwar. No proposal, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court, has been received from the Government of Karnataka in this regard. As such, no decision can be taken by the Central Government in the matter.

**Export of Cotton**

1519. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken a decision to export cotton.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Cotton Advisory Board was consulted before taking the decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). There is a decision to release about 5.00 lakh bales of cotton for export at the commencement of every cotton year, subject to adjustments being made after the detailed crop estimates are available, with the objective of maintaining India's presence in the International Market as a stable supplier. In pursuance of this decision, Government has released 1,00 lakh bales of Bengal Deshi Cotton for export during 1991-92 cotton season. It has also been decided to place an export quota of 4.00 lakh bales of cotton during the 1991-92 cotton season at the disposal of Cotton Corporation of India to be operated by it from time to time keeping in view the prevailing prices. It has not been considered necessary to consult the Cotton Advisory Board for this quantity of quota released since it is based on the existing decisions.

**Excise Frauds in A.P**

1520. SHRI GANGADHARA SANI PALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of excise frauds detected in Anantapur and Rayalseema in Andhra Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) the action taken against the guilty persons; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to eliminate such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) During the financial years 1989-90 and 1990-91, 56 cases involving evasion of Central Excise duty of Rs.80.23 lacs were made out in Anantapur and Rayalseema in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) In all these 56 cases, investigations have been completed. Also, in 55 cases Show Cause Notices for recovery of duty/ imposition of penalty have been issued.

(c) Ant-evasion machinery has been alerted, Road petrolling and other preventive checks have been intensified.

**Newsitem "RBI to Probe BCCI Issue"**

1521. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "RBI to probe BCCI Issue" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated September 15, 1991;

(b) if so, whether all matters including security aspect regarding the BCCI have